

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

SYMANTEC CORPORATION, No. 100 Plaintiff, OI

No. C 06-7963 SI (WDB) ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE

v.
LOGICAL PLUS, INC., et al.,
Defendants.

On November 9, 2007, District Judge Illston ordered the parties in this case to participate in a follow-up settlement conference "before the end of the year." Pursuant to that Order, the undersigned caused to be issued a Clerk's Notice of Further Settlement Conference, dated November 20, 2007, which included the following orders to the parties and their lawyers: (1) by no later than December 10, 2000, lodge with the undersigned an updated Confidential Settlement Conference Statement and (2) through lead trial counsel and a representative of the client who has full authority to negotiate and settle the case, appear at the follow-up settlement conference in Courtroom 4 of the federal courthouse in Oakland, California, on December 18, 2007.

No defendant lodged (ever) an updated Confidential Settlement Conference Statement. No defendant appeared at the courthouse on December 18th for the settlement conference. No lawyer for any defendant appeared at the courthouse on December 18th for the settlement conference.

On December 17, 2007, Mr. Lo, counsel for Logical Plus and Mr. Chang, telephoned the undersigned's chambers to seek permission to appear at the settlement conference by phone. Pursuant to standing order, such requests must be in writing and must be served and filed no fewer than seven court days before the settlement conference is to be held. No defendant and no defense lawyer timely filed any such request.

Instead, on the morning of the scheduled settlement conference, December 18, 2007, Mr. Lo e-filed a request that "Defendants" appear at the settlement conference by telephone. That filing includes the following paragraph: "Counsel for Defendants spoke with counsel for plaintiff regarding this request for telephonic appearance. Plaintiff has not objected to this request for telephonic appearance. Therefore, Defendants respectfully request the Court grant this request for telephonic appearance." Within a few hours, counsel for plaintiff filed a response to defendants' request. In that response, plaintiff objected to defendants' request to appear by phone and asserted that "At no time has Symantec ever indicated to the defense that it does not object." This assertion flatly contradicts the impression that Mr. Lo apparently tried to create, namely, that plaintiff did not object to defendants' request to appear by phone.

Given the matters described in the preceding paragraphs, the Court hereby ORDERS Mr. Joseph Chang, Logical Plus, Inc., and Mr. Philip H. Lo, State Bar Number 178538, to appear at 1:30 p.m., on MONDAY, JANUARY 14, 2008, in Courtroom 4 of the United States Courthouse in Oakland, California, TO SHOW CAUSE WHY THEY SHOULD NOT BE SANCTIONED FOR (1) failing to lodge an updated Confidential Settlement Conference Statement, (2) failing to appear in person at the settlement conference that was duly scheduled for December 18, 2007, (3) failing to timely file a written request to appear at the settlement conference by telephone instead of in person, and (4) misleading the Court about whether plaintiff objected to the last-minute request by defendants to appear by phone.

The Court hereby warns Mr. Chang, Logical Plus, Inc., and Mr. Lo that failure to appear in person on January 14, 2008, at the hearing on this Order to Show Cause will result in imposition of substantial financial sanctions and a recommendation that, as an additional sanction, the District Court enter judgment on Symantec's Complaint in its favor and against Logical Plus, Inc., and Mr. Chang (personally).

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: December 21, 2007

WAYNE D. BRAZIL United States Magistrate Judge